Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives



Joint Press Release



Boston Field Division

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REWARD OF UP TO \$3,000 OFFERED FOR INFORMATION REGARDING DURHAM, NH ARSONS

DURHAM, N.H. - The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) is offering a reward of up to \$3,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the incendiary fires in downtown Durham during the early morning of Feb. 2. Investigations conducted by the Durham Police and Durham Fire Departments and New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office and ATF have determined that five fires in Durham, at 6 Main Street, 15 Main Street, 19 Main Street, 20 Main Street and 4 Smith Park Lane were all incendiary in nature, meaning they were all intentionally set.

"Arsons have a devastating effect on our communities. Arsons not only result in the loss of income and the loss of property, but they also endanger the lives of firefighters who respond to these fires and who protect our communities" said Eugenio A. Marquez, Acting Special Agent in Charge of the ATF Boston Field Division.

"Anyone who may have witnessed anything suspicious during the early morning hours of Feb 2 is urged to call the Durham Police Department. All callers can remain anonymous," said Durham Deputy Police Chief Rene Kelley.

The Durham Police Department can be reached at (603) 868-2324. The New Hampshire State Arson Hotline can also be contacted at 1-800-400-3526, while the ATF Arson Hotline can be contacted at 1-800-ATF-FIRE (1-800-283-3473).

This is a joint investigation between the Durham Police Department, the Durham Fire Department, the New Hampshire State Fire Marshal's Office and ATF.

ATF is the federal law enforcement agency with jurisdiction for investigating crimes of arson. More information and ATF and its programs can be found at www.atf.gov.

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Media inquires may be directed to:

Deputy Chief Rene Kelley Durham Police Department 603-868-2324

Deputy Chief John Powers Durham Fire Department 603-862-1426

Deputy Chief John Southwell New Hampshire Fire Marshal's Office 603-223-4289

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